



Northern Ireland Assembly

COMMITTEE FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Tuesday 28 April 2015
Room 30, Parliament Buildings

- Present: Mr Alex Maskey MLA (Chairperson)
Mr Mickey Brady MLA (Deputy Chairperson)
Mr Jim Allister MLA
Ms Paula Bradley MLA
Mr Gregory Campbell MLA
Mr Stewart Dickson MLA
Mr Fra McCann MLA
Mr Gary Middleton MLA
Mr Sammy Wilson MLA
- In Attendance: Dr Kevin Pelan (Assembly Clerk)
Mrs Ashleigh Mitford (Assistant Assembly Clerk)
Mr Stewart Kennedy (Assistant Assembly Clerk)
Mr Richard Reid (Clerical Officer)
- Apologies: Mr Roy Beggs MLA

The Chairperson declared the meeting open at 12:38am.

1. Apologies

Apologies were noted as above.

Mr Mickey Brady MLA and Mr Stewart Dickson MLA joined the meeting at 12:39am
Ms Paula Bradley MLA left the meeting at 12:39am

2. Matters Arising

The Committee agreed to issue a press release subject to legal advice on phase 3 of its Inquiry.

3. Regeneration Bill – Departmental Briefing

The following Departmental officials joined the meeting at 12:40am:

- Henry McArdle
- Anthony McDaid
- Ian Snowden

The Committee discussed issues with the aim of identifying potential amendments and recommendations to be submitted to the Minister for consideration.

Mr Allister proposed amendments to Clause 1 as follows:

Clause 1

- (1) A council may provide financial assistance to any person doing, or intending to do, anything which promotes economic regeneration in its district.
- (2) Financial assistance may be provided under this section for -

(a) to (e).

At end of Clause 1(2) insert

"or for anything not falling within paragraphs (a) to (e) which directly contributes to economic regeneration within the district."

The Committee divided on the proposed amendment:

Ayes; 5

Noes; 3

Abstentions; 0

Non-voting; 1

AYES:

Mr Jim Allister MLA

Ms Paula Bradley MLA

Mr Gregory Campbell MLA

Mr Gary Middleton MLA

Mr Sammy Wilson MLA

NOES:

Mr Alex Maskey MLA (Chairperson)

Mr Mickey Brady MLA (Deputy Chairperson)

Mr Fra McCann MLA

NON-VOTING:

Mr Stewart Dickson MLA

The Committee agreed the proposed amendment.

Mr Allister proposed an amendment Clause 1 as follows:

Add at end of Clause 1 insert

No assisted project may promote or denote, by title or content or in any way, the actions of anyone convicted of a serious criminal offence, as defined in Section 5 of the Civil Service (Special Advisers) Act (Northern Ireland) 2013.

Ayes; 5

Noes; 3

Abstentions; 0

Non-voting; 1

AYES:

Mr Jim Allister MLA

Ms Paula Bradley MLA

Mr Gregory Campbell MLA

Mr Gary Middleton MLA

Mr Sammy Wilson MLA

NOES:

Mr Alex Maskey MLA (Chairperson)

Mr Mickey Brady MLA (Deputy Chairperson)

Mr Fra McCann MLA

NON-VOTING:

Mr Stewart Dickson MLA

The Committee agreed the proposed amendment.

Agreed: The Committee agreed a number of recommendations for the Department to consider.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to postpone the formal clause-by-clause until 14 May 2015 to give the Department sufficient time to consider the proposed amendments and recommendations.

This session was recorded by Hansard.

The representatives left the meeting at 13:31am.

4. Date, time and place of next meeting

The next meeting of the Committee for Social Development will take place on 30 April 2015 at 10.00am in Room 29, Parliament Buildings.

The Chairperson adjourned the meeting at 13:32am

Alex Maskey

Chairperson, Committee for Social Development

30 April 2015